

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

-Applicant: Darby, et al

Serial No.: Unassigned

Filing Date: Herewith

For: A COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR INTERCONNECTED NETWORKS HAVING A LINEAR TOPOLOGY, ESPECIALLY RAILWAYS

The Honorable Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is a request for filing a

[ ] Continuation patent application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b),

[X] Divisional

of pending prior application Serial No 09/042,722, filed on March 17, 1998 of Darby, et al.  
for A COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR INTERCONNECTED  
NETWORKS HAVING A LINEAR TOPOLOGY, ESPECIALLY RAILWAYS .

Enclosed is a copy of the prior application as originally filed. The undersigned hereby declares that the enclosed application is a true copy of the prior application as originally filed, that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

The enclosed true copy of the prior application as originally filed includes:

- [x] Cover Sheet, Abstract and 74 pages of specification,
- [x] 1-21 claims,
- [x] Seven (7) sheets of informal drawings showing Figs. 1-9,
- [X] Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney, and

The filing fee is calculated below:

	NUMBER OF CLAIMS		NUMBER EXTRA	(LARGE ENTITY)	(SMALL ENTITY)	FEE
TOTAL	36	- 20	= 16	x	\$18 or \$9	=\$288.00
INDEP.	10	- 3	= 7	x	\$80 or \$40	=\$560.00
MULTIPLE DEPEND.	[ ] Yes				\$270 or \$135=	\$
		(\$710 or \$355)		BASIC FILING FEE	=	\$710.00
			5	TOTAL FILING FEES	=	\$1,558.00

- [X] A check in the amount of \$1,558.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- [x] A preliminary amendment is enclosed.
- [x] Cancel claims 1-21 .
- [x] Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence -- This is a [ ] continuation, [ X] division, of application Serial No. 09/042,722, filed March 17, 1998 now U.S. PATENT 6,400,281
- [X] The Power of Attorney in the prior application is to L. Lawton Rogers, III, Reg. No. 24,302; D. Joseph English, Reg. No. 42,514; Mark C. Comtois, Reg. No. 46,285; and Patrick D. McPherson, Reg. No. 46,255 at 510 King Street, Suite 400, Alexandria, Virginia 22314.
  - [x] a. The power appears in the original papers of the prior application.
  - [ ] b. Since the power does not appear in the original application papers, a copy of the power in the prior application is enclosed.
  - [ ] c. Recognize as associate attorney and address all future communications to \_\_\_\_\_

(name, registration number and address)

[X] The prior application is assigned to GE Harris Railway Electronics, L.L.C.

[X] The last Office Action in the prior application S.N. 09/042,722 is dated July 11, 2001.

[ ] A Request for Extension of Time to Respond in the prior application and the fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_ are enclosed.

If a Petition for an Extension of Time in the application filed herewith or in the prior application is necessary for the paper transmitted herewith to be timely filed, this request is to be considered as a petition to the extend the response period by the amount of time needed for the papers to be timely filed.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees required or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1835. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Dated: August 31, 2001